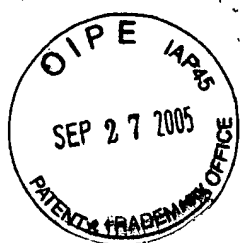


AF/ITW



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08702.0009-03000

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1645**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
LEONARD et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1645
)	
Application No.: 10/659,586)	Examiner: N.M. Minnifield
)	
Filed: September 11, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 4504
)	
For: USE OF IL-12 AND IL-12)	
ANTAGONISTS IN THE)	
TREATMENT OF AUTOIMMUNE)	
DISEASES)	

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed May 17, 2005, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper beginning on page 5.

Attachments include seven references discussed herein:

1. Baeder et al., "Rapamycin prevents the onset of insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM) in NOD mice," *Clin. Exp. Immunol.* 89(2):174-178 (1992).
2. Campbell et al., "Essential Role for Interferon- γ and Interleukin-6 in Autoimmune Insulin-Dependent Diabetes in NOD/Wehi Mice," *J. Clin. Invest.* 87:739-742 (1991).
3. Charteris et al., "Interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) Production In Vivo in Experimental Autoimmune Uveoretinitis," *Immunolog.* 75:463-467 (1992).
4. Kai et al., "Prevention of insulinitis and diabetes in nonobese diabetic mice by administration of FK506," *Transplantation* 55(4):936-940 (1993).
5. Knoerzer et al., "Collagen-Induced Arthritis in the BB Rat: Prevention of Disease by Treatment with CTLA-4-Ig," *J. Clin. Invest.* 96:987-993 (1995).
6. Merino et al., "Prevention of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus in Autoimmune BXSB mice by a Transgene Encoding I-E α Chain," *J. Exp. Med.* 178:1189-1197 (1993).
7. Tang et al., "The Effects of a Monoclonal Antibody to Interferon- γ on Experimental Autoimmune Thyroiditis (EAT): Prevention of Disease and Decrease of EAT-specific T Cells," *Eur. J. Immunol.* 23:275-278 (1993).